

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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UNCLAS PARIS 28920

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK, US

SUBJ: CIVAIR: CONCORDE

1. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED FIRST ISSUE (OCTOBER 1975) OF "FRANCE TRANSPORTS", A NEWSLETTER ISSUED BY THE STATE SECRETARIAT OF TRANSPORTATION. IN IT IS A FULL PAGE ARTICLE ENTITLED: "CONCORDE: SOON IN AMERICA?".

2. EXCEPTING ONE STATEMENT THAT USG AS WELL AS REPS OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN VICINITY OF AIRPORTS TO BE SERVED "HAD RAISED SEVERAL OBJECTIONS" RE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND SAFETY OF OPERATION OF CONCORDE, ARTICLE IS ACCURATE AND WELL-BALANCED. INDEED, FINAL PARAS IDENTIFY THE ISSUES AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS BLUNTLY AND FAIRLY. OUR INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THESE PARAS:

QUOTE: THE DOSSIER OF COMMENTS ASSEMBLED BY THE FAA FOLLOWING THESE HEARINGS (ON THE DRAFT EIS) TOTALS OVER FIFTEEN HUNDRED PAGES. ALL THE ARGUMENTS PRESENTED WILL BE WEIGHED IN THE FINAL IMPACT STATEMENT, WHICH THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO PUBLISH SHORTLY.

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EVEN IF, AS EVERYTHING SUGGESTS, THE CON-

CLUSIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE FAVORABLE, THIS WILL NOT RESULT IN THE AUTOMATIC GRANTING OF LANDING RIGHTS.

FIRST OF ALL, IT IS UP TO THE NEW YORK PORT AUTHORITY ALONE TO DECIDE WHETHER THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO LAND AT KENNEDY AIRPORT, WHICH IT OWNS. ONCE THIS SECOND OBSTACLE IS OVERCOME, THIS WILL STILL NOT BE THE END OF THE MATTER. IT IS TO BE EXPECTED IN FACT THAT ANY AUTHORIZATION GRANTED AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL OR BY AN AIRPORT WILL BE FOUGHT IN THE COURTS BY PRESSURE GROUPS, WHETHER ENVIRONMENTALISTS OR ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN THE VICINITY OF AIRPORTS, WHOSE HOSTILITY IS WELL KNOWN AND WHO WILL TRY TO MAKE A POLITICAL ISSUE OF THE DEBATE.

IT IS TO BE HOPED, HOWEVER, THAT THESE ULTIMATE DIFFICULTIES WILL BE OVERCOME JUST AS WERE OVERCOME ALL THOSE THAT WERE ENCOUNTERED DURING THE FINAL DEVELOPMENT OF THIS NEW MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND THAT THE ENTRY INTO SERVICE OF CONCORDE IN THE YEAR OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES WILL, BY BRINGING THE TWO CONTINENTS CLOSER TOGETHER, MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO AFFIRM AND TO STRENGTHEN THE SPECIAL TIES THAT HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED BETWEEN THESE TWO COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE.

3. COPIES OF NEWSLETTER POUCHED DEPT. AND DOT.
RUSH

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